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Wednesday, March 22, 2017 www.metro.us | t: MetroPhilly | f: MetroPhil

The hottest neighborhoods in Philly. 16-18

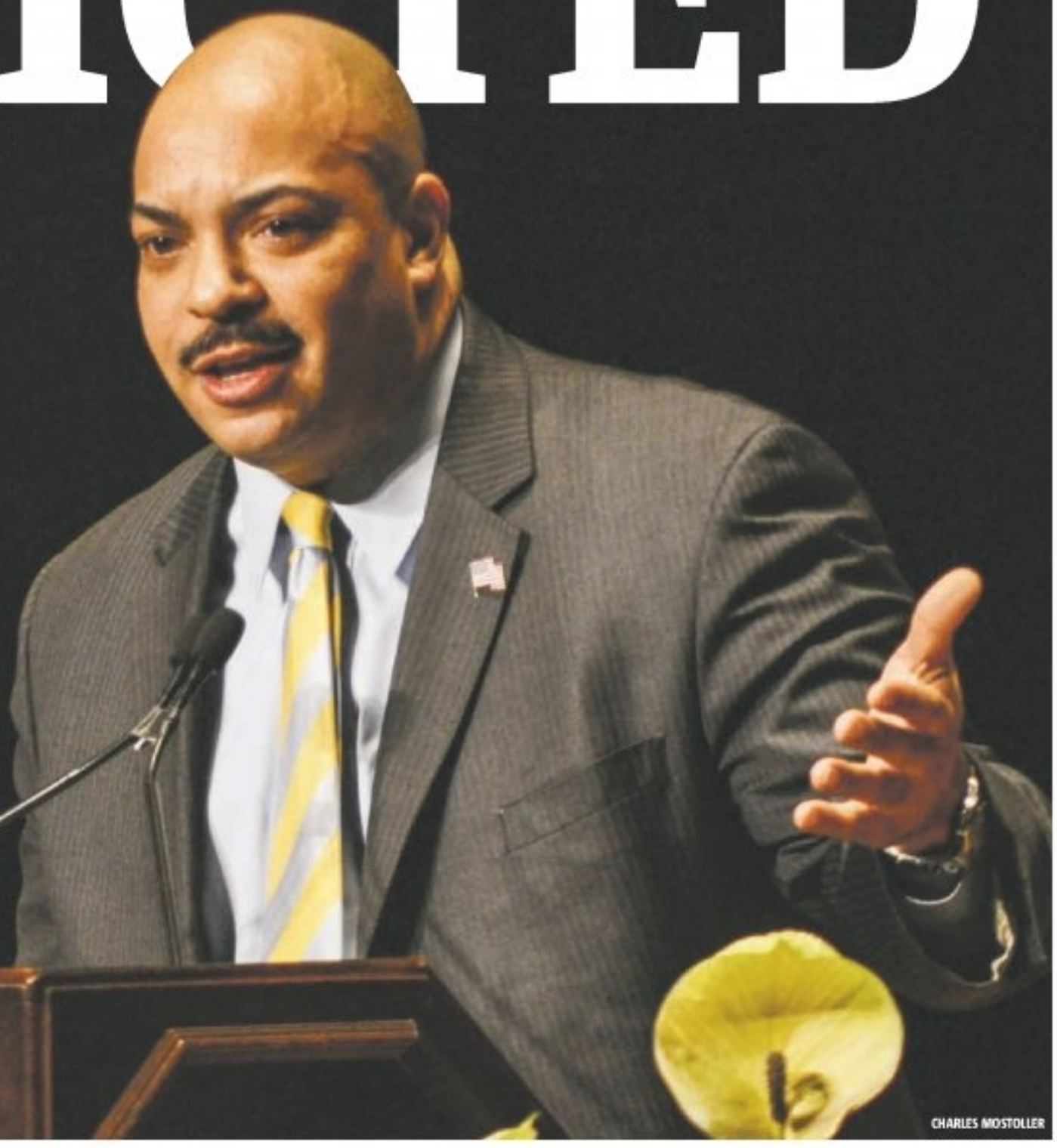
ROAD TO OBLIVION?

The Flyers need a miracle on upcoming road trip. 19

Jenny Slate clears up any rumors about her breakup with Chris Evans. 14

INDICTED

Philadelphia's top prosecutor is accused of accepting more than $100,000 in gifts in exchange for favors. 4



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TRUMP WARNS GOP TO GET BEHIND HEALTH CARE BILL

1 President Donald Trump warned Republican lawmakers on Tuesday that voters could punish them if they do not approve a plan he favors to dismantle Obamacare, as pressure grew on the businessman-turned-politician to win the first major legislative battle of his presidency. In one of the few visits he has made to the U.S. Capitol since taking office two months ago, Trump told fellow

Republicans in the House of Representatives they would face "political problems" for opposing the bill that takes apart Obamacare and partially replaces it. "The president was really clear: He laid it on the line for everybody," House Speaker Paul Ryan, the leading proponent of the bill, told reporters. REUTERS

IRA COMMANDER TURNED PEACEMAKER DIES AT 66

2 Martin McGuinness, the Irish Republican Army commander who laid down his arms to become a key architect of Northern Ireland's peace, died on Tuesday aged 66, prompting tributes from allies and former enemies alike. The face of Irish Republicanism during some of the worst moments of three decades of sectarian bloodshed that killed more than 3,600 people, McGuinness remained a figure of hate for many pro-British Protestants until his death. But he earned widespread respect across Britain, Ireland and beyond by embracing his bitterest rivals to cement the 1998 Good Friday peace agreement and allow Northern Ireland to slowly return to normality. "He believed in a shared future, and refused to live in the past, a lesson all of us who remain should learn and live by," former President Bill Clinton said. REUTERS

COMMERCIAL DRONE USE TO EXPAND BY 2021

3 The number of unmanned aircraft, or drones, in the United States will jump dramatically over the next five years, the U.S. Federal Aviation Administration said. The increase comes after the Obama administration in 2016 implemented new rules that opened the skies to low-level small drones for education, research and routine commercial use. The FAA said it estimates the fleet of small hobbyist drones will more than triple from an estimated 1.1 million vehicles in 2016 to more than 3.5 million by 2021. They also estimates the commercial drone fleet will grow from 42,000 at the end of 2016 to about 442,000 aircraft by 2021. The aviation safety agency said there could be as many as 1.6 million commercial drones in use by 2021. REUTERS

CELEBRATIONS IN TURKEY

5 Women jump over a bonfire during the Newroz celebrations at Topkapi Culture Park in Istanbul, Turkey, on Tuesday. Newroz is the March 21 festival that marks the beginning of spring and is celebrated mainly in Iran, Afghanistan, India, Turkic republics such as Azerbaijan, Caucasus countries, Albania and Macedonia. GETTY IMAGES

5 THINGS YOU NEED TO KNOW

TWITTER STEPS UP TO TACKLE EXTREMISM

4 Twitter Inc. said on Tuesday it had suspended more than 636,000 accounts since the middle of 2015 as the company steps up efforts to tackle "violent extremism" on its microblogging platform. The company shut down a total of 376,890 accounts in the last six months of 2016, Twitter said in its latest transparency report. Twitter also said it had started taking legal requests to remove

content posted by verified journalists and media outlets. Twitter said it had received 88 such requests, but had not taken any action on the majority of these requests. REUTERS

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ERIN TIERNAN, WEB REPORTER

President Trump said his Supreme Court pick would overturn Roe v. Wade, but nominee Neil Gorsuch told lawmakers he "would have walked out the door" if Trump asked him to throw out the landmark 1973 abortion-rights decision. Find out what else Gorsuch said at **metro.us/politics.**

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DA Seth Williams, pictured in his office in 2014, was charged with bribery, extortion and corruption on Tuesday by federal prosecutors. CHARLES MOSTOLLER

Feds: District attorney 'took money that did not belong to him and lied about it'

A federal indictment accuses Philly DA Seth Williams of corruption.

SAM NEWHOUSE
@scnewhouse
sam.newhouse@metro.us

Rufus Seth Williams made history as Philadelphia's first black district attorney when he was elected in 2009, taking office at the beginning of 2010 with promises of reform and transparency in the criminal justice system.

Seven years later, Williams seems to have fallen from grace, with federal prosecutors indicting him Tuesday on a variety of bribery, extortion and other corruption charges.

The federal indictment charges Williams with intervening in court cases in return for favors from business owners — even helping one friend bypass airport security. He accepted a chocolate-colored couch, a used 1997 Jaguar XK8 convertible, and tickets and lodging for classy vacations, the indictment says.

"Mr. Williams was willing to compromise his position of public trust for private financial gain," acting New Jersey U.S. Attorney Williams Fitzpatrick said during a news conference to announce the indictment. (New Jersey prosecutors were invited to handle the investigation, but the case will be prosecuted in Philadelphia).

Williams allegedly took $10,000 intended for nursing home care for an elderly relative and spent it on himself, He also took the relative's Social Security and pension payments, prosecutors said.

"Mr. Williams simply took money that did not belong to him and then he lied about it," Fitzpatrick said. "He falsely told nursing home employees his relative, not himself, had spent the money."

All told, Williams is charged with using his office to enrich himself to the tune of about $100,000 in gifts.

He previously was fined $62,000 by the city Ethics Board for failing to report $160,000 in gifts, the largest fine the board has ever issued.

He could face five to 20 years in prison per charge if convicted of the multiple charges filed against him, prosecutors said.

Williams already announced he won't run for a third term because of the "embarrassment" of the financial scandals. He did not comment on the charges Tuesday, instead he spent the day with his family, according to an office spokesman.

Philadelphia Bar Association Chancellor Deborah R. Gross said Williams must resign immediately.

For the mayor's reaction, visit Metro.us.

From the indictment

Federal charging documents included this February 2012 text conversation purportedly showing Williams accepting and soliciting illegal gifts.

Unidentified business owner: the guy pleaded guilty, he will take any punishment but he just doesn't wanna do jail! ... If you can do anything for him it would be very appreciative (as long as you have no problem with it).
DA Seth Williams: I will look into it.
UBO: [referring to trip to Punta Cana, Dominican Republic] April?
W: I am merely a thankful beggar and don't want to overstep my bounds in asking ... but we will gladly go.
UBO: [three weeks later, with picture of $3,200 sofa] Is that it?
W: That is the exact one ... but the special order color Chocolate.

Source: U.S. Attorney's Office

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2014 Nissan Pathfinder

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NO SHOW

'Ellen' is coming to Philly, but Ellen probably won't be there

Ellen fans rejoiced after news that the comedian, talk show host and recent Presidential Medal of Freedom recipient would come to Philly. But now it appears their hopes have been dashed.

On Monday night, Ellen DeGeneres announced on Twitter that she would "shut down" Walnut Street.

"I'm going to shut down a couple of blocks on Walnut St. in #philly," she tweeted. "If you're free on Wednesday, it's gonna be fun."

Ellen DeGeneres GETTY IMAGES

But after rumors that Ellen was coming to Philly went viral, she issued a clarifying tweet that her "crew" was coming, likely meaning they'll just be filming and the comic won't be showing up.

Ellen then issued a clarifying tweet, writing, "Tomorrow I'm sending some of my crew to #philly for a live shot on Walnut Street. Y'all are gonna look great on my show," the follow-up tweet said.

On Tuesday afternoon, she made it official, telling fans to come to Walnut Street for a chance to be on the show.

"I don't know what you've got going on tomorrow, #philly, but you better be free at 4pm... that is, if you wanna be on my show," she tweeted.

SAM NEWHOUSE

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A shopper reaches for a 2-liter of Diet Pepsi in a grocery store. GETTY IMAGES

Pepsi to pull 2-liter bottles, 12-packs from store shelves

Latest move by beverage giant in war against Philly's soda tax.

SAM NEWHOUSE
@scnewhouse
sam.newhouse@metro.us

Some Pepsi Co. products will soon disappear from Philadelphia store shelves in response to the soda tax that took effect at the beginning of 2017.

In a letter to retailers, Pepsi said it would stop offering Philadelphia customers the option to buy drinks in sizes larger than 1.25 liters and in multiple-drink packages, such as 12 packs.

"Because of the costly Philadelphia Beverage Tax, hard-working, value-oriented families are less able to afford larger package sizes and multipacks, where the tax burden is the greatest," Pepsi said in a statement. "This even applies to many low-calorie and zero-calorie beverages that are also subject to the tax.

"We are offering the products and package sizes working families are more able to afford because we believe this will give our retail and foodservice partners the best chance to succeed in this challenging environment and will minimize the chance of product going out-of-date. Our full portfolio of beverages in all package sizes will still be available outside the city."

The soda industry has harshly criticized Philadelphia's new 1.5 cent per ounce tax on sweetened drinks, which is designed to help finance universal pre-K and the restoration of parks, rec centers and libraries.

A lawsuit filed by the American Beverage Association to stop the tax was defeated in a city court, and an appeal is currently pending.

Besides Pepsi-Cola, Pepsi products include sodas like Mountain Dew, 7 Up and Sierra Mist, as well as other taxed drinks including Lipton Teas and Gatorade.

Pepsi's competitor Coca-Cola also announced last week that they would ask retailers to "boost availability and in-store visibility of 7.5-oz. mini cans and 1.25-liter bottles in Philadelphia stores" in response to the tax.

"We've been offering smaller packages across the country — and here in Philadelphia — not because of cities passing beverage taxes, but because they're what people want," Coke's regional manager Fran McGorry wrote. "But these steps also are helping our customers navigate the business challenges presented by this tax and helping make our products affordable for consumers."

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2013 Hyundai Tucson — Leather! — $258/Month

2011 Lexus CT 200H — Hybrid! — $274/Month

2014 Buick LaCrosse — Like New! — $279/Month

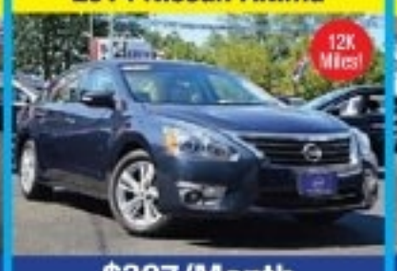
2012 Infiniti M37 — Navigation! — $290/Month

2009 Acura MDX — 3rd Row! — $290/Month

2008 Mercedes-Benz GL 450 — Extra Clean! — $290/Month

2011 Honda Odyssey EX-L — Loaded! — $290/Month

2009 Ford Flex — Leather! — $299/Month



2014 Nissan Altima — 12K Miles! — $307/Month

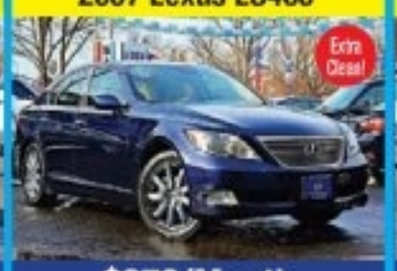
2011 Infiniti G — Leather! — $329/Month

2012 Buick Enclave — Leather! — $349/Month

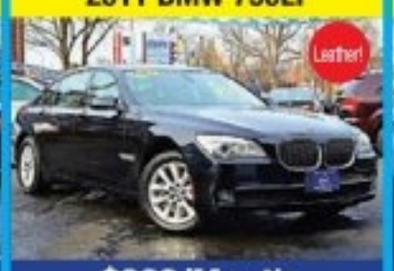
2007 Infiniti QX56 AWD — 3rd Row! — $355/Month

2012 BMW X5 xDrive — Navigation! — $372/Month

2008 Land Rover — Leather! — $379/Month



2007 Lexus LS460 — Extra Clean! — $379/Month



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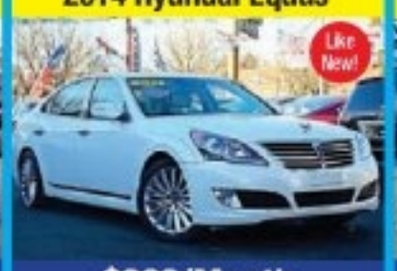

2014 Hyundai Equus — Like New! — $399/Month

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Trump's high court pick vows independence, says he's no 'rubber stamp'

U.S. Supreme Court nominee Neil Gorsuch on Tuesday pledged independence from President Donald Trump, bristled at his criticism of the judiciary and said not even the president is above the law amid Democratic concerns he would be beholden to the man who selected him.

Answering questions from senators during the second day of his Senate Judiciary Committee confirmation hearing, Gorsuch said Trump never asked him to overturn the 1973 Supreme Court ruling legalizing abortion nationwide, saying if the Republican president had done so "I would have walked out the door."

Trump promised during last year's presidential campaign to appoint an anti-abortion justice who would overturn the landmark Roe v. Wade ruling, which many conservatives want reversed.

If confirmed by the Senate as expected to fill a 13-month-old vacancy, Gorsuch would restore the nine-seat court's conservative majority at a time when Republicans control Congress and the White House. But the conservative federal appeals court judge from Colorado repeatedly said he was beyond politics.

"When I became a judge, they gave me a gavel not a rubber stamp," Gorsuch said. "I am my own man," he added.

Trump has assailed the judiciary both as a candidate and since taking office on Jan. 20. He condemned federal judges who have put on hold his two executive orders to ban the entry into the United States of people from several Muslim-majority countries, calling one a "so-called judge" and suggesting that blame for a future terrorist attack should go to the courts.

"When anyone criticizes the honesty or integrity or the motives of a federal judge, well I find that disheartening, I find that demoralizing, because I know the truth," Gorsuch said. REUTERS

Gorsuch testifies before the Senate Judiciary Committee. GETTY IMAGES

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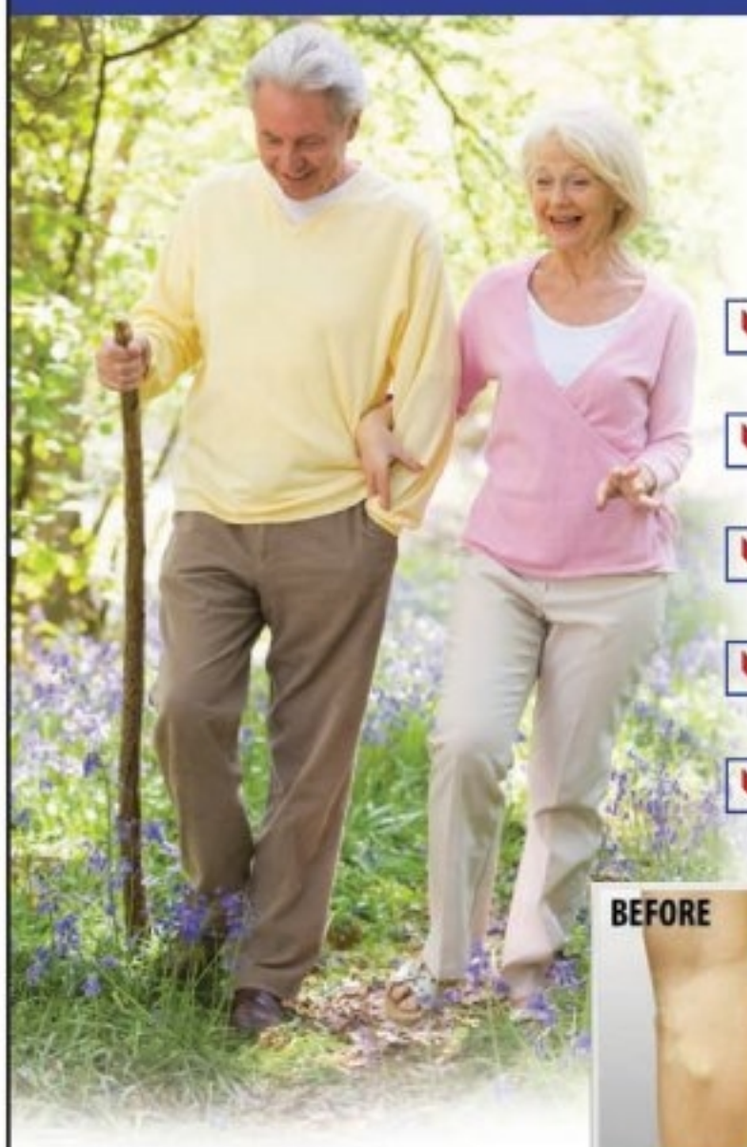

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LA sheriff's office apologizes to Wyclef Jean for handcuffing incident

Los Angeles County Sheriff's Department apologized on Tuesday for briefly detaining Grammy-winning hip hop artist Wyclef Jean in handcuffs during a robbery investigation, after Jean said he was "treated like a criminal" by law enforcement officers.

The sheriff's department released a statement describing its investigation in the early hours of Monday morning into a violent robbery in West Hollywood, a trendy municipality neighboring Los Angeles, and apologized "for any inconvenience this process caused Mr. Jean."

"It is unfortunate that Mr. Jean was detained for six minutes during this investigation, as he had no involvement whatsoever in this violent crime," the sheriff's department said.

Singer Wyclef Jean GETTY IMAGES

Representatives for Jean did not immediately respond to a request for comment.

The sheriff's department said the suspects allegedly attacked and held up a man and a woman at gunpoint and robbed them of their possessions before driving away. Jean was pulled over shortly after the incident because the vehicle he was in matched the description of the suspects' car.

The statement said Jean was placed in handcuffs because he displayed "furtive movements and demeanor," such as walking towards the trunk of the car despite deputies asking him not to.

The suspects in the robbery were later arrested.

In tweets and video of the incident posted to his Instagram and Twitter feed, Jean, the Haitian-born former Fugees singer, said he appeared to have been the victim of "another case of mistaken identity" and threatened to sue.

"I was treated like a criminal until other police showed up and pointed out they had wrong person," Jean, 47, wrote on Twitter.

"I am sure no father wants his sons or daughters to see him in Handcuffs especially if he is innocent," he added.

REUTERS

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US, UK curb electronics on flights from Middle East and North Africa

The moves were prompted by reports that militant groups want to smuggle explosive devices inside electronic gadgets.

The United States and Britain on Tuesday imposed restrictions on carry-on electronic devices on planes coming from certain airports in Muslim-majority countries in the Middle East and North Africa in response to unspecified security threats.

The U.S. Department of Homeland Security said passengers traveling from a specific list of airports could not bring into the main cabin devices larger than a mobile phone such as tablets, portable DVD players, laptops and cameras.

Instead, such items must be in checked baggage.

Although civil liberties groups raised concerns that U.S. President Donald Trump was seeking another limit on movement after a travel ban from Muslim-majority countries was challenged in the courts, Britain took similar steps.

A spokesman for British Prime Minister Theresa May said there would be curbs on electronic items in the cabin on flights from six countries in the Middle East. The foreign office said the measures would be implemented by March 25.

The ban would continue for the "foreseeable future," a U.S. government official said on Tuesday, adding that it was possible it could be extended to other airports and other countries.

White House spokesman Sean Spicer declined to talk about the intelligence that prompted the new steps or explain why some countries were left off the list.

Senator Bill Nelson, a Florida Democrat, said he "spoke to the intelligence community over the weekend, and this is a real threat."

U.S. officials say militant groups are known for innovative bomb designs, including embedding them inside computers. Yemen-based Al Qaeda in the Arabian Peninsula also has boasted of one of the world's most feared bomb mak-

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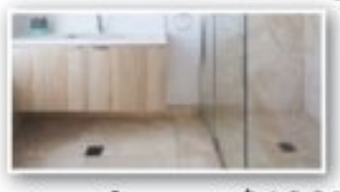
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A sign marks the check-in for Qatar Airways, Royal Jordanian Airlines and Finnair at John F. Kennedy International Airport in New York GETTY IMAGES

ers, Ibrahim Hassan al-Asiri.

French and Canadian officials said they were examining their arrangements but neither government was taking additional security measures at this stage.

The airports covered by the U.S. restrictions are in Cairo; Istanbul; Kuwait City; Doha, Qatar; Casablanca, Morocco; Amman, Jordan; Riyadh and Jeddah, Saudi Arabia; and Dubai and Abu Dhabi in United Arab Emirates.

The affected airports are served by nine airlines that fly directly from those cities to the United States about 50 times a day, senior government officials said.

The carriers — Royal Jordanian Airlines, Egypt Air, Turkish Airlines, Saudi Arabian Airlines, Kuwait Airways, Royal Air Maroc, Qatar Airways, Emirates and Etihad Airways — have until Friday to adopt the new policy, which took effect on Tuesday.

No U.S. airlines are on the list because there are no direct flights on them between the United States and the cited airports, officials said.

Britain said its restrictions would apply to direct flights from Turkey, Lebanon, Jordan, Egypt, Tunisia and Saudi Arabia.

The British regulations affect British Airways, easyJet, Jet2, Monarch, Thomas Cook, Thomson, Atlas-Global, Pegasus, EgyptAir, Royal Jordanian, Middle East Airlines, Saudia, Turkish Airlines and Tunisair.

IAG-owned British Airways advised customers departing from affected airports to arrive in good time at check-in.

Shares in IAG turned lower after the U.K. announcement, with easyJet also ending the day in negative territory.

A U.S. government source said that while the restrictions arose from multiple reports of security threats, some recent intelligence had arrived that prompted the current alert.

U.S. authorities believe there is a threat from plots similar to an incident last year in Somalia, where a bomb hidden in a laptop blew a hole in the side of a plane but failed to down it, another source said.

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FRED BEANS REPEATS HISTORIC USED CAR SALE

Doylestown, PA – Fred Beans, CEO and founder of the Fred Beans Automotive Group located in Doylestown, PA, has announced a **ONE DAY SALE** on Saturday, March 25th at 9:00AM, where pre-owned vehicles will be sold for as low as **$999**.* This sale is being held due to overwhelming public demand.

Cars will be clearly marked, so come early for the best selection. This is a **ONE DAY ONLY** sale designed to get the local community driving again.

Fred Beans' pre-owned inventory levels need to be reduced to make room for shipments of new models arriving daily. As a result, **all 8 Fred Beans Doylestown locations are selling these overstocked pre-owned vehicles to the public at drastic discounts in an attempt to clear excess inventory**.

Along with this huge variety of pre-owned vehicles, the Fred Beans Family of Dealerships in Doylestown features new Ford, Lincoln, Volkswagen, Dodge, Chrysler, Jeep, Ram, Hyundai, Genesis, Nissan, Subaru, Chevrolet, Cadillac, Buick, and GMC vehicles.

Fred Beans believes reviving the economy starts at home, and changing things locally will lead to changing things nationally.

Along with the Fred Beans Family of Dealerships' extra inventory, additional vehicles have been acquired at incredible prices for this sale from various banks, repossession companies, auto auctions, credit unions, lease companies, and rental companies.

The sale will make pre-owned vehicles available for as low as **$999**,* prices not normally offered to the general public. According to Fred Beans, *"We want to give our customers a reason to believe in the local economy again. Someone has to look out for their best interest."*

Customers are encouraged to arrive and register by 8:15AM to inspect the entire inventory and find the car that's right for them. Every vehicle will be cleaned, detailed, and fully prepared for instant delivery. On the evening of March 24th, after the close of business, Mr. Beans and his team will mark the special sale price on each and every vehicle. Because Fred Beans' customers are feeling the credit crunch right now, the Fred Beans Automotive Group has given the dealerships' financing managers the resources necessary to get most customers' credit approved on the spot.

The Fred Beans Family of Dealerships has $10 million in lending power, the result of over 50 years of strong relationships with the area's leading lenders. This means that customers with a less-than-perfect credit history can have their credit approved and drive home a quality pre-owned car, truck, or SUV by lunchtime on Saturday.

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This special **ONE DAY ONLY** sale will be held at all 8 Fred Beans Doylestown locations this Saturday, March 25th at 9:00AM.

Pre-owned vehicles will be sold for as low as $999.* Customers are encouraged to arrive and register by 8:15AM for the start of inspection. Incredible sale prices, starting as low as **$999**,* will be posted no later than 8:00AM. All vehicles will be sold on a first-come, first-served basis. The Fred Beans Family of Dealerships is expecting a high volume of customers for this sale, so be sure to reserve your spot early.

Customers wishing to trade in a vehicle are asked to bring their title or payment book for immediate delivery. Fred Beans will even pay off your trade-in in full, no matter how much you still owe on it.**

Most of these surplus pre-owned vehicles will get sent directly to auto auctions for liquidation. So if anyone has been thinking about purchasing a good, clean, dependable pre-owned car, truck, van, or sport utility vehicle, don't miss this special **ONE DAY ONLY** sale.

Courtesy transportation is available from all local airports, train stations, and bus depots.

For more information about this sale and directions to our locations, please visit us online at **www.999sale.com or call 855-656-0700**

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Jenny Slate talks Chris Evans, finally

Jenny Slate is finally, *finally*, opening up about her break up with Captain America himself, Chris Evans. And it will give you every single feel.

Slate, 34, and Evans, 35, met while playing love interests in "Gifted." And as she tells Vulture, she hadn't really expected to start a romance with the Marvel star. "I first really liked Chris as a person because he is so unpretentious," she says. "[And] to be quite honest, I didn't think I was his type. I mean, I understand why I think I'm beautiful, but if you've had a certain lifestyle and I'm a very, very different type of person — I don't want to be an experiment."

Ultimately, the two broke up because Slate felt she had rushed into the relationship, and because, well, you have to admit the two are very apples-and-oranges, ya dig? "When Chris and I started dating, my husband and I had only been separated for a couple of months," she confesses. "I don't mind talking about [Chris] at all," she continues. "[But] we're very, very different."

You know, I'm just getting into the idea of these two with the romance and the heavy petting. So actually? If you guys could do me a favor and start dating again, that would be great.

Kate Hudson has a new dude

ALL PHOTOS GETTY IMAGES

Kate Hudson is getting hot and heavy with a new dude — sorry, Brad Pitt.

Daily Mail has photos of the 37-year-old lovin', touchin', squeezin' with musician Danny Fujikawa, a "long-time pal." Mmhmm. Fujikawa, who you definitely have never heard of, is reportedly a 30-year-old musician with an ironic LinkedIn profile.

Because Hudson so clearly has a type, it kind of makes sense that she and Brad Pitt's alleged courtship didn't work out. The Cut notes that she's really into musicians with some sort of questionable facial hair situation: First, it was Chris Robinson of The Black Crowes; then it was Matthew Bellamy of Muse, that band with the annoying songs that all sound the same; then there was a Jonas brother which, sure. OK.

Anyway, we all know this one is a love for the ages because you don't make out in front of a juice bar with just anyone. Right?

'2 Become 1': Mel B. to divorce

Former Spice Girl Melanie Brown, I mean, Scary Spice, I mean, Mel B., has filed for divorce from her husband of 10 years Stephen Belafonte. Aw, man.

People somehow got their hands on their divorce papers, where the date of separation is listed as Dec. 28. Brown is asking for joint legal and physical custody of their 5-year-old daughter, Madison Brown Belafonte. The "America's Got Talent" judge has also requested to terminate the court's ability to award spousal support, because she is not playing games.

The couple secretly married in June 2007 after a whopping five months of dating. The 41-year-old spent a considerable amount of time talking about their sex life and denying domestic abuse allegations, as you do.

Maybe that vague advice the Spice Girls had that one time is really true: Too much of something is bad enough … but too much of nothing is just as tough.

Woody Harrelson quit pot, is kind of proud

Here's some very important news for you: Woody Harrelson is not stoned right now. Not even remotely.

That's right. The man that The Daily Beast calls "Hollywood's favorite stoner" has given up the good stuff. The 55-year-old actor chatted with Vulture, and admitted as much: "I am a party animal … But on the other hand, I'm now extremely moderate and I actually stopped smoking pot almost a year ago." Impressive!

After what Harrelson calls "30 solid years of just partying too f—ing hard," the actor decided to go cold turkey because smoking makes him a monster, basically.

"When you're doing it all the time, it just becomes, well, you know. I feel like it was keeping me from being emotionally available." Why he would want to be emotionally available in the first place, he does not say.

Congratulations, I guess?

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As we speak, the new, live-action "Beauty and the Beast" is making all the money — this despite it being a near-beat-for-beat, song-for-song redo of a movie that already exists. At least the studio was adventurous enough with "Pete's Dragon," another in its new rash of remakes but one that tries something completely different. No, last year's sleeper hit remake of a not-very-good 1977 original isn't terribly faithful; basically the only things they have in common are a boy named Pete and a dragon. But it's soulful where "B&B" is calculated, modest where the other is lavish. It'll be a classic one day. And then, in 40 years, Disney can remake it.

"PETE'S DRAGON" - *Netflix Instont*

Don't worry: Last year's "Pete's Dragon" is not much like the original 1977 "Pete's Dragon." DISNEY

"MYSTERY SCIENCE THEATER 3000" - *Netflix Instont*

One of "MST3K's" best episodes now lives on Netflix.

If you have memories of stuffing VHS tapes full of old episodes of "MST3K" — the show where a dude and two talking robots watch bad movies and talk over them — you'll be happy to know Netflix has suddenly made 20 random episodes available for subscribers. Some of their greatest hits are now live: "Manos, the Hands of Fate," "Time Chasers," "Future War," "Space Mutiny." (Alas, "The Final Sacrifice" is currently AWOL.) Honestly, we're not entirely crazy about the idea of watching old movies just to laugh at them. At the same time, there's a deep affection behind the barbs, and at heart the "MST3K"-ers are amazing archivists: How else would you have ever heard of something as nutty as "Werewolf," which features a guy changing into a lycan while driving a car?

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4 Hot Philly neighborhoods t

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South Philly Tap Room is a popular hangout in Point Breeze. ANTHONY CAROTO

home

Location. Location. Location. Whether you're a first-time homebuyer or just looking for a good investment, where you buy is as important as what you buy. Recently, buyers have seen double-digit returns on investment in hot neighborhoods like NoLibs, Fishtown and Passyunk Square, but as these areas have become firmly established, there are fewer bargains to be had. To help you get ahead of the curve and identify what's up and coming, here are four Philly neighborhoods poised to take off in 2017.

Point Breeze and Newbold

This is the year of Point Breeze, predicts two online real estate sites, Zillow and Redfin, which give the neighborhood high marks in their 2017 lists of Philly's hottest real-estate markets. John Featherman, associate broker at Berkshire Hathaway Home Services-Fox & Roach Realtors, agrees, saying that Realtors have been buzzing about Point Breeze for a while. With a 26.8 percent increase in median home values last year and an additional 6.8 percent increase predicted for this year, it's easy to see why.

"It's the cheapest place for first-time home buyers who want to live in a cool, edgy neighborhood that's still walkable to Center City," says Featherman, and the next logical destination for buyers who have been pushed out of the Graduate Hospital area due to rising prices.

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The neighborhood extends from Broad to 25th and Washington to Mifflin, but the Newbold section, which stretches from Broad to 18th is especially desirable. Featherman sees more and more millennials increasingly making their home in Point Breeze who say, "I really prefer to live on a block where there's a bar." Point Breeze obliges with gastropubs like South Philly Tap Room (1509 Mifflin St.), American Sardine Bar (1800 Federal St.) — named one of The 40 Best Bars in America for Food Lovers by the Food Network — and the recently opened Second District Brewing Company (1939 S. Bancroft St.).

Lower Moyamensing

Lower Moyamensing, from Snyder to Ritner and Fifth to 10th streets, is a terrific place for first-time buyers looking for value and growth, says Realtor Jeanne Whipple, team leader with Philly Home Girls-Coldwell Banker Preferred. Whipple loves that LoMo is convenient to everything. "It's super-walkable to Passyunk Square and the Broad Street [subway] line," she says "and major arteries such as Snyder, Oregon and Broad." Wide streets let in lots of air and light and an active neighborhood association helps keep this area vibrant. Whipple also extols LoMo's varied ethnic dining options.

"Los Gallos at Ninth and Wolf is a traditional Mexican restaurant with a great vibe," she says. "It's superfriendly and casual." Frangelli's Bakery at 847 W. Ritner St. is her go-to spot for cronuts stuffed with ricotta. Houses here are what she lovingly refers to as "grandmom specials"— well-maintained homes that lack the most current decor.

Continued on page 18
Continued from page 17

935 Wolf is for sale in Lower Moyamensing, aka LoMo. PROVIDED

Have a pint at Second District Brewing in Point Breeze. ANTHONY CAROTO

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It's hard not to fall in love with the Victorian houses in Spruce Hill. BRITTANY SALERNO

Port Richmond

A neighborhood that's not so much revitalized as evolving is Port Richmond — the area from Lehigh to Castor and Aramingo to Richmond. Unlike nearby Kensington, which also turns up on lists of Philly neighborhoods to watch, Port Richmond was never blighted. Whipple calls the area "vibrant and diverse," a stable immigrant enclave of "tidy tree-lined streets, great historical buildings, gigantic churches, a park and artist lofts." The food and bar scene here has never been better. At River Wards Cafe (3118 Richmond St.), you'll find a lunchtime business crowd, while the recently-opened Gaul & Co. Malthouse (3133 Gaul St.) and Bait & Switch seafood restaurant (2537 E. Somerset St.) are getting lots of buzz, too. A small (800 square-foot) house here rents for about $850 a month, reports Whipple, and costs $110,000, making buying in Port Richmond a smart investment. While public transit isn't as obvious as in some neighborhoods, the 15 bus runs along Girard and Richmond connecting to the El, and a bike trail is part of a greenway project that's transforming the city's North Delaware Riverfront.

Spruce Hill

Looking to buy in an established neighborhood with gorgeous Victorian architecture, verdant streets, ample recreational space and booming businesses? Spruce Hill — from Market Street to Woodland Avenue, and 40th to 46th streets — tops Redfin's 2017 list of hottest Philly neighborhoods. While the median sale price of $415,200 may seem high when compared with other trending areas, it buys lots of space (an average of more than 2,200 square feet), and a $213 per square foot price is a bargain compared with neighborhoods like Rittenhouse Square ($405 per square foot). Clark Park is a hub of year-round activity with a weekly farmers market and annual Shakespeare Festival; and bustling Baltimore Avenue is home to hipster hangouts like Dock Street Brewing (701 S. 50th St.).

Featherman recommends Spruce Hill to families who want to send their kids to a top-ranked school, because much of it falls within the Penn Alexander catchment, and notes that University of Pennsylvania employees can receive incentives when they buy in the area. He's also bullish on neighboring Walnut Hill, which runs west to 52nd, touting its affordability — many homes sell for under $200,000 — and recommending it to "urban homesteaders, early adopters who want to lay claim to an up-and-coming neighborhood."

Clark Park in Spruce Hill has a weekly farmers market. BRITTANY SALERNO

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Flyers playoff hopes hang in the balance at start of big road trip

The Flyers need nearly a perfect road trip to stay in the mix in the East.

ERIC GOLDSTEIN
@EricEsponda
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As the Flyers embark on a daunting four-game road trip, their playoff lives are being held together by a combination of Elmer's glue and Scotch tape.

Trailing the Maple Leafs by seven points for the final wild-card berth heading into Tuesday's games — and not to mention they still need to leapfrog the Islanders and Lightning — coach Dave Hakstol's club has little to no margin for error.

Plus, the schedule makers have not made it easy for them on their trek across the country and Canada.

They have to nearly run the table against the Jets, who are in a desperate fight for a postseason berth, and the Wild, Blue Jackets and Penguins, all of whom are among the top six teams in the league.

"We have circled this road trip a while back and we are playing some tough teams and some good teams," captain Claude Giroux said following Sunday's come-from-behind 4-3 victory over the Hurricanes in overtime. "We are ready for it and pretty excited to get it going."

Maybe so, but the numbers speak otherwise.

Although the Flyers have played well at the Wells Fargo Center, opponents' ice has not been as kind. They are 12-19-4 this season on the road, have won just two of their last 10, been outscored 37-22 during the span and dropped three straight.

Meanwhile, the combined home records of the four teams they will face is a whopping 95-41-6. That's a pretty daunting trek lying ahead.

"We have an extremely tough task ahead of us," goalie Steve Mason said. "We are going to have to have our best game each and every night on this trip in order to keep the season alive here. I'm sure the boys are looking forward to some fun games here."

If the Flyers are to pull off the unthinkable and return home with at least seven-to-eight points, they are going to need to improve on their woeful special teams, get better goaltending and limit the mistakes, especially in their own end.

They are also going to need the Maple Leafs, Islanders and Lightning to go on losing streaks.

Success in the Flyers' net will be of great importance in order for the squad to stay alive in the hunt for a playoff spot. GETTY IMAGES

"Everybody understands the position we're in and what it's going to take in order to come out on top," Mason said. "We have to find that consistency. That is the biggest thing right now."

Their coach also cautioned that they need to focus on the Jets first on Tuesday night before worrying about the other three games.

"You can't look too far down the road," Hakstol said. "It's a tough road trip. It's a challenging road trip, and we know exactly where we sit."

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Embiid films first commercial, a candy spot for Jolly Rancher

The Sixers rookie star shows (yet again) he has a great sense of humor.

EVAN MACY
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Joel Embiid may be out for the season, but he isn't going anywhere any time soon. GETTY IMAGES

Joel Embiid has arrived.

No, he's not back from his most recent injury, a slightly torn meniscus in his knee.

And no, he has not won the Rookie of the Year Award (despite his incredible play for 31 games, his teammate Dario Saric is the leader for the award).

But he has an ad campaign.

Embiid is now a proud spokesman for Jolly Rancher — a sweet candy reflective of Embiid's youthful and outgoing energy.

It's a well-known fact that Embiid's favorite beverage is the sugary Shirley Temple, and his choice to endorse a candy brand seems fitting for the bright and rising NBA star.

The campaign is called "keep on sucking," and Embiid talks about his incessant rookie season — which lasted three years as he rehabbed from two foot surgeries.

"When you're still a rookie after you've been in the league for three years, you have to trust the process and just embrace it," Embiid said of the ad campaign. "It is great working with Jolly Rancher — and poking fun at my long-lasting rookie status. This new commercial is a fun reminder that sometimes you've just got to laugh at yourself and embrace the stuff that sucks."

The commercial is the first ever filmed by the 23-year-old.

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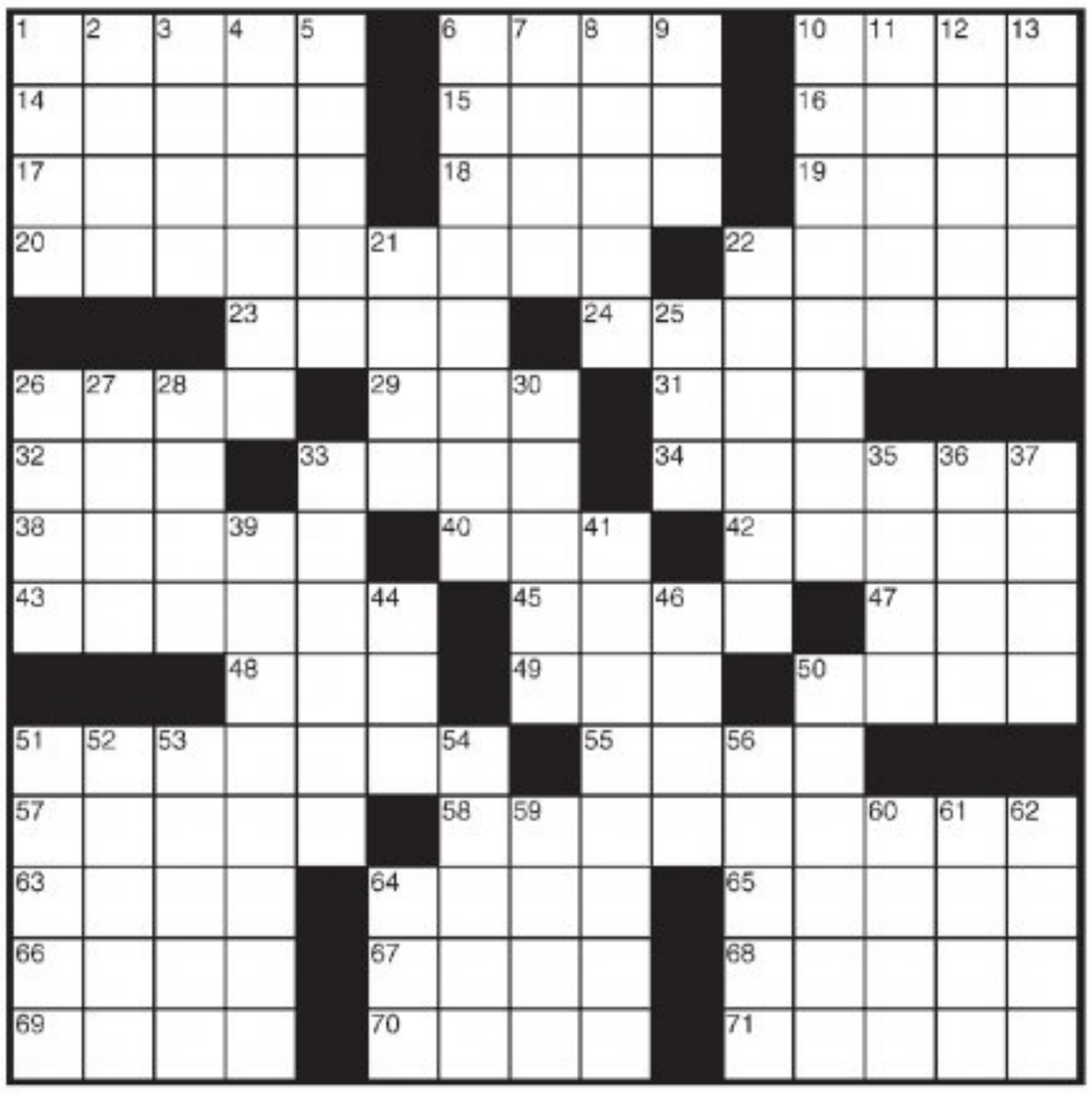
26 Too
29 Earth orbiter of yore
31 Stout
32 Dull routine
33 Compos mentis
34 Shimmers
38 Genetic double
40 Safari animal
42 Famed statuette
43 Excellent
45 Calls it quits
47 Explosive ltrs.
48 Publicity info
49 A Gabor sister
50 On a voyage
51 Parkas
55 Graceful horse
57 The "f" in f-stop
58 Hitched up
63 Opposing forces
64 Wine served warm
65 Hollow rock
66 Baroness Karen
67 Pierre's girl
68 Foolish, plus
69 Warrior princess
70 Get healthy again
71 Sandal part

Down
1 Show affection
2 Out of work
3 Vault
4 Heart, maybe
5 Like healthy fur
6 Trying to influence
7 Old barge canal
8 Has on
9 Salon styles
10 Conditionally released prisoners
11 Go off like Vesuvius
12 Stressed out
13 Desirous
21 Tot's cry
22 String quartet members
25 Shake a finger
26 Eyebrow shapes
27 Humdinger
28 Pause
30 "Walk Away –"
33 Ongoing drama
35 Feigns
36 Luxuriant tresses
37 Baja Ms.
39 Omaha's state
41 Monotonous
44 – choy
46 Fix a sock
50 Not in class
51 Stick on
52 Threat for a Wild West outlaw
53 Whale's home
54 Embarrass
56 Auspices
59 Similar
60 Glide like a hawk
61 Novelist – Ferber
62 Profound
64 Actor – Shepard



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1	7		5				6	
8	4		3					
9					2		4	5
				5	4			
		6	9		3	1		
			7	6				
6	1		2					8
					9		7	4
	9				5		3	1

hard

8	4	1			3			
			5		2	4		
		9			4		6	3
		7	3					1
	9						2	
4					6	8		
7	8		6			9		
		6	4		7			
			2			7	1	6

metro.us/horoscopes

Aries Don't complicate matters by trying to fit too much into your day. Keep your life simple and your facts straight. Stick to your plan and do things for yourself.

Taurus Taking an active role in events or activities that matter to you will encourage you to use your imagination and rely on your instincts. Take care of health issues promptly.

Gemini Listen, observe and learn as you go. Don't feel you have to be first or take a risk to impress someone. Protect your health and your financial situation.

Cancer Don't make an impulsive move. Money matters are best handled with care and frugality. Overreacting will make matters worse when dealing with others.

Leo Observe what's going on around you at work or among your peers, but don't interfere. Meddling will lead to blame. Put your trust and time into getting ahead.

Virgo Taking an energetic approach to life and interacting with people you find stimulating and inspiring will spur you to take on interesting projects or learn something new.

Libra Impulsive behavior will be difficult to curtail. Try to think before you do or say something you will live to regret. Overdoing it in any fashion will be costly.

Scorpio You'll face problems when dealing with friends, relatives and peers. Keep your promises and be willing to work alongside others to bring about positive change.

Sagittarius Making a move or changing your surroundings will give you a boost. You don't have to overspend if you are willing to do the work yourself.

Capricorn Set a steady pace and do your own thing. A disciplined approach when dealing with deadlines will help you divert someone who is trying to dismantle your plans.

Aquarius Something or someone from your past will cause problems if you haven't cleaned up unfinished business. Make a point to put things in place quickly.

Pisces You'll face some opposition if you aren't readily available when needed. Don't crowd your agenda with matters that someone else can take care of. EUGENIA LAST

Yesterday's answers

A	C	H	E	■	L	A	B	O	R	■	C	R	A	B
W	H	I	M	■	E	L	A	T	E	■	L	O	G	E
L	I	M	P	■	V	I	C	T	O	R	I	O	U	S
■	■	■	T	W	E	A	K	■	P	I	C	K	E	T
■	S	P	I	E	L	S	■	W	E	A	K	■	■	■
D	E	L	E	T	E	■	R	A	N	■	E	B	A	Y
R	E	A	R	■	D	O	E	R	S	■	D	I	R	E
A	M	Y	■	■	W	I	N	■	■	■	L	B	S	■
F	L	E	D	■	R	I	N	S	E	■	S	L	O	E
T	Y	R	O	■	E	N	S	■	A	S	T	E	R	S
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